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Collaborative Capacity Instrument: Reviewing and Assessing the Status of Linkages Across Alcohol and Drug Treatment, Child Welfare Services and Dependency Courts

This tool is intended to be used as a self-assessment by local level alcohol and other drug (AOD) service and child welfare service (CWS) agencies and dependency courts who are preparing to work with each other or who may be seeking to move to a new level of cooperation after some initial efforts. The questions have been designed to elicit discussion among and within both sets of agencies and the court about their readiness for closer work with each other.

Responses from this assessment should be tabulated and distributed, along with the total from all participants, to each State team. The results can be used to compare the jurisdiction with the matrix of progress in linkages and prioritizing any needed action. The NCSACW has the ability to tabulate these responses via the internet for interested sites.

*Dependency court is used in this document to include the courts that have jurisdiction in cases of child abuse and/or neglect and include judicial officers as well as the attorneys that represent parents, children, social services and the state.

Staff Level:	Please Select *	Other:
Gender:	Please Select *	
Area of Primary Responsibility:	Please Select *	Other:
Jurisdiction of Agency or Court:	Please Select *	Other:
Race/Ethnicity:	Please Select *	Other:
Age:	*	
State:	* Please Select	County:
State: Local Level Entity:	* Please Select * Please enter the name of your agency here:	County:
		County:

Please check the response category that most closely represents your extent of agreement with each of the following statements.

In the statements below, due to the multiplicity of sub state-level entities and jurisdictions, the word "region" is used as a general term to refer to the local level.

I. Underlying Values and Principles of Collaborative Relationships

		Disagree	Agree	Agree	Sure/Don't Know
1.	Our region has included the judicial officers and attorneys from the dependency court as partners in the development of new approaches to serving substance-abusing parents in the child welfare system.	0	\circ	0	0

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^{*} Indicates a required field.

		Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Agree	Not Sure/Don't Know
	III. Daily Practice - Client Engagement and Re	etention in	Care		
11.	Our region routinely monitors the implementation and the quality of its screening and assessment protocols.	0	0	0	\circ
10.	When our AOD treatment providers assess clients, they routinely include questions about children in the family, their living arrangements, and child safety issues.	0	\circ	0	0
9.	Our region routinely documents AOD factors from its screening and assessment process in the information system.	\circ	0	\circ	\bigcirc
8.	Our region's AOD providers have sufficient information about the child welfare case to conduct quality assessments among families referred by child welfare to treatment.	0	0	0	0
7.	Our region's AOD intake process identifies parents who are involved in the CWS system based on previously negotiated information sharing protocols.	0	0	0	0
6.	Our region's child welfare intake process is able to identify prior AOD treatment episodes based on previously negotiated information sharing protocols.	0	\circ	0	0
5.	Our region supplements child abuse/neglect risk assessment with an in-depth assessment of AOD issues and their impact on each of the family members.	0	0	0	0
4.	Our region has developed coordinated AOD treatment and CPS case plans.	\circ	\circ	\circ	\circ
3.	Our region has multi-disciplinary service teams that include both AOD and CWS workers.	\circ	\circ	\circ	\circ
2.	Our region has successfully out-stationed AOD workers at CPS offices and/or the dependency court to help with screening and assessment of clients.	0	0	0	0
1.	Our region has developed a joint AOD-CWS-Dependency Court policy on its approach to standardized screening and assessment of substance abuse issues among families in child welfare.	\circ	0	0	0
		Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Agree	Not Sure/Don't Know
	II. Daily Practice - Screening and Asse	essment			
6.	Our region has discussed and developed responses to the conflicting time frames associated with CWS, TANF, AOD treatment and child development.	0	0	0	0
5.	In our region, CWS staff and the courts view alcohol abuse as being as important as other drugs as a contributing factor in child abuse and/or neglect.	0	0	0	0
4.	Our region has prioritized parents in the CWS system for receipt of AOD treatment services.	\circ	\bigcirc	\circ	\bigcirc
3.	Our region's AOD and CWS agencies and dependency courts have negotiated shared principles or goal statements that reflect a consensus on issues related to families with AOD-related problems in child welfare and the dependency court.	0	0	0	0
2.	Our region's AOD and CWS agencies and dependency courts have used a formal values assessment process to determine how much consensus or disagreement we have about issues related to AOD use, parenting, and child safety.	0	0	0	0

Collaborative C	apacity	Instrument -	Local
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1.	Our region's CWS staff have the skills and knowledge to talk with their clients about their AOD use and related problems.	\bigcirc	\bigcirc		\bigcirc	\bigcirc
2.	Our region's AOD staff have the skills and knowledge to talk with their clients about child safety and CWS involvement.	\bigcirc	\bigcirc		\bigcirc	\bigcirc
3.	Our region's dependency court judges have the skills and knowledge they need to talk with their clients about child welfare and substance abuse issues.	0	0		\circ	\circ
4.	Our region's dependency court attorneys have the skills and knowledge they need to talk with their clients about child welfare and substance abuse issues.	0	0		\circ	0
5.	Our systems have assessed common drop-out points where clients in care leave the system prior to completing treatment.	\bigcirc	\bigcirc		\bigcirc	
6.	Our systems have implemented integrated case plans that include the substance abuse recovery plan integrated or linked with the child welfare case plan.	0	0		\bigcirc	\circ
7.	Our dependency court system has adequate access to treatment monitoring information to determine how parents are progressing through treatment in a timely way.	0	0		\circ	0
8.	Our region's dependency court system has realistic expectations for CWS parents with AOD problems (e.g., approach to relapse and drug testing issues).	0	0		\circ	0
9.	Our region's CWS staff provides outreach to clients who do not keep their initial AOD appointment or drop out of treatment.	\circ	\circ		\bigcirc	\circ
10.	Our dependency court staff follows up with the substance abuse treatment agency that the parent is ordered to attend if a parent fails to keep a court date.	0	0		0	0
11.	Our region's AOD staff track the status of their clients' progress in the CWS system.	\bigcirc	\circ		\bigcirc	
12.	Our region has developed and trained our staff in approaches with clients that improve rates of retention in treatment once they enter it.	\bigcirc	\circ		\bigcirc	
13.	In our region, CWS and AOD agencies have agreed on the level of information about clients' progress in treatment that will be communicated from treatment agencies to CWS workers and the courts.	0	0		0	0
14.	In our region, there is an adequate system for monitoring jointly-agreed upon outcomes of child welfare, substance abuse and dependency court programs and interventions.	0	0		\circ	0
15.	In our region, client relapse typically leads to a collaborative intervention to re-engage the client in treatment and to re-assess child safety.	0	0		\circ	0
16.	In our region, drug testing is used effectively and in conjunction with a treatment program to monitor clients' compliance with treatment plans.	0	0		\circ	0
17.	Rate your region's AOD treatment on the following areas:	Poor		Fair		Excellent
	Gender specific					
	Culturally relevant					
	Geographically accessible			\bigcirc		
	Family focused			\bigcirc		
	Age-specific responses to children's needs			\bigcirc		
	Adequacy of adolescent treatment			\bigcirc		
18.	Rate your region's child welfare services in the following areas:	Poor		Fair		Excellent
	Gender specific					

	Culturally relevant				
	Geographically accessible			0 0	
	Family focused			0 0	
	Age-specific responses to children's needs			0 0	
	Adequacy of adolescent treatment			0 0	
	IV. Daily Practice - Services to Chil	dren			
			0		Not
		Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Agree	Sure/Don't Know
1.	Our region has implemented substance abuse prevention and early intervention services for most children in the CWS system.				\bigcirc
2.	Our region targets children of substance abusers in the child welfare system for specialized substance abuse prevention programming.	\circ	\circ	\circ	\circ
3.	Our region ensures that all children in the child welfare system have a comprehensive mental health assessment.	\bigcirc	\circ	\circ	\bigcirc
4.	Our region ensures that all children in CWS are screened for:				
	a) Neurological effects of prenatal substance exposure				
	b) Developmental delays associated with parental substance abuse				
	c) Emotional/mental health problems associated with parental substance abuse	\circ	\circ	\circ	\bigcirc
	d) Substance use disorders				
5.	Our region's Independent Living Program includes significant content on the impact of AOD use.	\circ	\circ	\circ	\circ
6.	Our region has developed a range of programs for children of substance-abusing parents that are targeted on the special developmental needs of these children.	0	0	0	0
7.	Our region is familiar with national models of prevention and intervention for AOD-affected children.	\circ	\circ	\circ	\bigcirc
	V. Joint Accountability and Shared Ou	utcomes			
		Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Agree	Not Sure/Don't Know
1.	Our region's AOD agency has identified system outcomes and has communicated them to CWS and the dependency court.	\circ	\circ	\circ	\bigcirc
2.	Our region's CWS agency has identified system outcomes and has communicated them to the AOD agency and the dependency court.	\bigcirc	\circ	\circ	\bigcirc
3.	Our region's dependency court has identified system outcomes and has communicated them to the AOD and CWS agencies.	\circ	\circ	\circ	\bigcirc
4.	Our region's AOD and CWS agencies and the courts have developed shared outcomes for CWS-AOD involved families and have agreed on how to use this information to inform policy leaders.	0	0	0	0
5.	Our region has developed outcome criteria in their contracts with community-based providers (who serve CWS-AOD clients) to measure their effectiveness in achieving shared outcomes.	0	0	\circ	0
6.	Our region has shifted funding from providers who are less effective in serving clients in the CWS-AOD systems to those that are more effective.	0	0	0	0
7.	In our region, CWS-AOD involved parents are referred to parenting programs that have demonstrated positive results with this population.	\circ	0	0	0

8.	Our region's CWS agency shares accountability with their AOD counterpart for successful treatment outcomes for their mutual clients.	\circ	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	
9.	Our region's AOD agency shares accountability for positive child safety outcomes for clients who have enrolled in treatment programs.	\circ	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc
10.	In our region, drug testing is not used in the court system as the most important indicator of clients' compliance with substance abuse treatment and their recovery.	0	0	0	0
	VI. Information Sharing and Data Sy	stems			
		Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Agree	Not Sure/Don't Know
1.	Our region has assessed its data system to identify gaps in monitoring clients involved in both CWS and AOD systems.	\circ	\circ	\bigcirc	
2.	Our region's data system can retrieve the percentages of families that receive services in both the AOD and CWS agencies.	\circ	\circ	\circ	\circ
3.	Our region has identified the confidentiality provisions that affect CWS-AOD and dependency court connections and has devised means of sharing information while observing these regulations.	0	\circ	0	0
4.	Our region has developed formal working agreements with the courts that include how child welfare and treatment agencies will share information about clients in treatment with the court system.	0	\circ	0	0
5.	Our region consistently documents AOD factors related to the case in our management information system.	\circ	\circ	\circ	\bigcirc
6.	Our region's AOD services have supplemented the alcohol/drug data system to generate data on their clients' children and their CPS involvement.	0	\circ	0	0
7.	Our region has developed the capacity to automate data about the characteristics and service outcomes of the clients who are in both the CWS and AOD caseloads.	0	\circ	0	0
8.	Our region is using data that can track CWS/AOD clients across information systems to monitor system outcomes.	\circ	\bigcirc	\circ	\circ
	VII. Training and Staff Developm	ent			
		Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Agree	Not Sure/Don't Know
1.	Our region's CWS ensures that all managers, supervisors and workers receive training on working with AOD-affected families.	\circ	\circ		
2.	Our region's AOD agency ensures that their staff/providers receive training on working with families in the CWS system.	\circ	\circ	\circ	\circ
3.	Our region has trained court staff in the principles of effective drug treatment and gender-specific services for mothers.	\circ	\bigcirc	\circ	\circ
4.	Our region has trained attorneys who practice in the dependency court regarding effective advocacy and basic education regarding substance abuse and addiction.	0	\circ	0	0
5.	Our region has developed joint training programs for AOD, CWS and court staff and providers to learn effective methods of working together.	0	\circ	0	0
6.	Our region has a multi-year staff development plan that includes periodic updates to the training and orientation received by the staff of both CWS and AOD agencies on working together.	0	0	0	0
7.	Our region has training programs that include cultural issues to improve staff's cultural relevance and competency in working with diverse AOD-CWS client groups.	0	0	0	0

8.	Our region has revised the state university and social work pre-service educational programs so that future staff are prepared to work across systems on substance abuse and child welfare issues.	0	\circ	0	\circ
9.	Foster parents, guardians, kinship placement providers and group home providers are sufficiently trained to work on issues related to substance abusing families.	0	\circ	0	0
10.	Training programs regarding substance abuse, child welfare and dependency court issues that are offered in our region are multidisciplinary in their approach and in their delivery.	0	0	\circ	0
	VIII. Budgeting and Program Sustair	nability			
		Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Agree	Not Sure/Don't Know
1.	Our region's CWS agency currently uses a portion of its funding for AOD treatment services (excluding drug testing).	\circ	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\circ
2.	Our AOD treatment agencies currently use a portion of their funding for services to improve clients' parenting skills.	\circ	\circ	\circ	\circ
3.	Our AOD treatment agencies currently use a portion of their funding for child development screenings for AOD effects on children of their clients.	0	\circ	0	0
4.	Our region uses a portion of its TANF allocations to fund programs for AOD-CWS clients.	\circ	\bigcirc	\circ	\bigcirc
5.	Our region's CWS and AOD agencies and dependency courts have jointly sought funding for pilot projects to work more closely together.	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	\bigcirc
6.	Our region has identified the full range of potential funding from all sources that could support the changes needed to work more closely across CWS-AOD agencies.	0	\circ	\circ	\bigcirc
7.	Our region has identified whether federal waivers would be appropriate to fully utilize available funds for families in the CWS-AOD systems.	0	0	\circ	
8.	Our region has a multi-year budget plan to support integrated CWS-AOD services.	\bigcirc	\bigcirc		\bigcirc
9.	Our courts have sought additional funding to take dependency drug court programs to a county-wide scale of operations.	\circ	0	\circ	\circ
	IX. Working with Related Agenci	ies			
		Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Agree	Not Sure/Don't Know
1.	Clinical services to address mental health and trauma issues are included in comprehensive assessments and case plans for all families.	0	0	0	0
2.	Domestic violence advocacy and services are included in comprehensive assessment and case plans for all families in the CWS and AOD services systems.	0	0	0	0
3.	Our region ensures that primary health care and dental care are available for families in the child welfare and AOD services systems.	\circ	\circ	\bigcirc	\circ
4.	Specialized health services for substance abusing parents regarding HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis C and other diseases frequently transmitted among intravenous drug users are accessible in our region.	0	\circ	0	0
5.	Our region's CWS staff know how to identify and link families with the support services that are frequently needed by CWS-AOD involved clients (e.g., transportation, child care, employment, housing) and makes effective referrals to those agencies.	0	0	0	0

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6.	Our region routinely assesses for rates of referral and service completions for all clinical and supportive services needed by families and monitors barriers to accessing these services.	0	\circ	0	0
7.	Our region AOD staff/providers know how to identify and link CWS-involved families with the other services that are frequently needed (e.g., transportation, child care, family violence services, mental health services) and make referrals to those agencies.	0	0	0	0
8.	Our region has AOD support/recovery groups that include a special focus on CWS and child safety issues.	\circ	\circ	\bigcirc	\circ
9.	Our region coordinates with law enforcement, AOD, and CWS to meet the needs of parents and their children affected by the criminal justice system (e.g., visitation for children with incarcerated parents, treatment while parents are incarcerated).	0	0	0	0
	X. Working with the Community and Suppo	rting Fam	ilies		
		Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Agree	Not Sure/Don't Know
1.	Our region has developed strategies to recruit broad community participation in addressing the needs of AOD-CWS and dependency court involved families.	0	0	0	0
2.	Our region includes community members in its planning and program development for substance abuse issues in child welfare and dependency court services.	0	\circ	\circ	0
3.	In our region, prevention of child abuse/neglect and substance abuse operates at the community level as well as statewide.	\bigcirc	\circ	\bigcirc	\bigcirc
4.	Our region has developed a formal mechanism to solicit support and input from community members and consumers and this is widely used.	0	\circ	0	0
5.	CWS and AOD staff members have access to up-to-date resource directories to locate family support centers and resources.	\circ	\circ	\bigcirc	\circ
6.	Community-wide accountability systems or "report cards" are used to monitor AOD and CWS issues with specific indicators for both systems.	\circ	0	\circ	0
7.	Our region assists in supporting sober living communities and housing for parents in recovery.	0	0	0	0
8.	Consumers, parents in recovery and program graduates have an active role in planning, developing, implementing and monitoring services for families with substance abuse problems in the child welfare system.	0	0	0	0
9.	Our region provides aftercare services to parents in the AOD and CWS systems that include the full array of family income support programs (EITC, Child Support, SCHIP, Food Stamps, Housing Subsidies, etc.).	0		0	0
	Submit Responses		Reset		

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